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Letter dated 26 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement by Amama Mbabazi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in charge of regional cooperation, on the demilitarization of Kisangani, following the recent clashes between the RPA of Rwanda and the UPDF of Uganda in Kisangani (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter, together with its annex, issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Semakula Kiwanuka**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 26 May 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Following the meeting in Mwanza, United Republic of Tanzania, on 14 May 2000, of President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and President Paul Kagame of Rwanda in the presence of President Benjamin Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania, at which the two Presidents instructed their commanders to work out a demilitarization plan for Kisangani, the Governments of Uganda and Rwanda have agreed as follows:

1. That the city of Kisangani be demilitarized. The military chiefs of both Rwanda and Uganda have signed the implementation order for the withdrawal of UPDF and RPA and redeployment of the forces, including those of the rebel forces from Kisangani.

2. The parties agreed to work constructively with RCD, MLC and RCD-ML to ensure their adherence to the letter and spirit of demilitarization of Kisangani.

3. This order comes into force with effect from 25 May 2000 and a timetable has been worked out for its full implementation. It is to be hoped that, in carrying out this implementation plan, the exercise will also serve as a future model for the disengagement of forces on the wider Congo scene.

4. Disengagement and withdrawal will take place simultaneously in accordance with the implementation calendar.

5. The United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) shall deploy its force to exercise neutral control over the demilitarized zone around the city and airports of Kisangani.

6. During the process of the demilitarization of Kisangani and thereafter in accordance with the principles of this plan no party shall use force or threaten to use force against any other party/parties. This includes hostile propaganda or inflammatory media attacks.

7. The clashes between RPA and UPDF in Kisangani were most regrettable and should never have happened. As will be observed, the leadership in both countries were quick in taking steps to ensure a quick return to normalcy, for which they should be complimented. All the parties to the Lusaka Agreement were consulted and assurances given that these clashes would not in any way interfere with the overall process to bring about peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

8. I would like to take this opportunity to inform all Ugandans and the international community at large that Uganda's relations with the Government and the people of Rwanda remain firm and it is the overwhelming desire of the Ugandan leadership not to act in a way that would jeopardize the relationship that has long existed between the peoples of Uganda and Rwanda.

(*Signed*) Amama **Mbabazi**
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (Regional Cooperation)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
23 May 2000